

# 2013 Annual Report



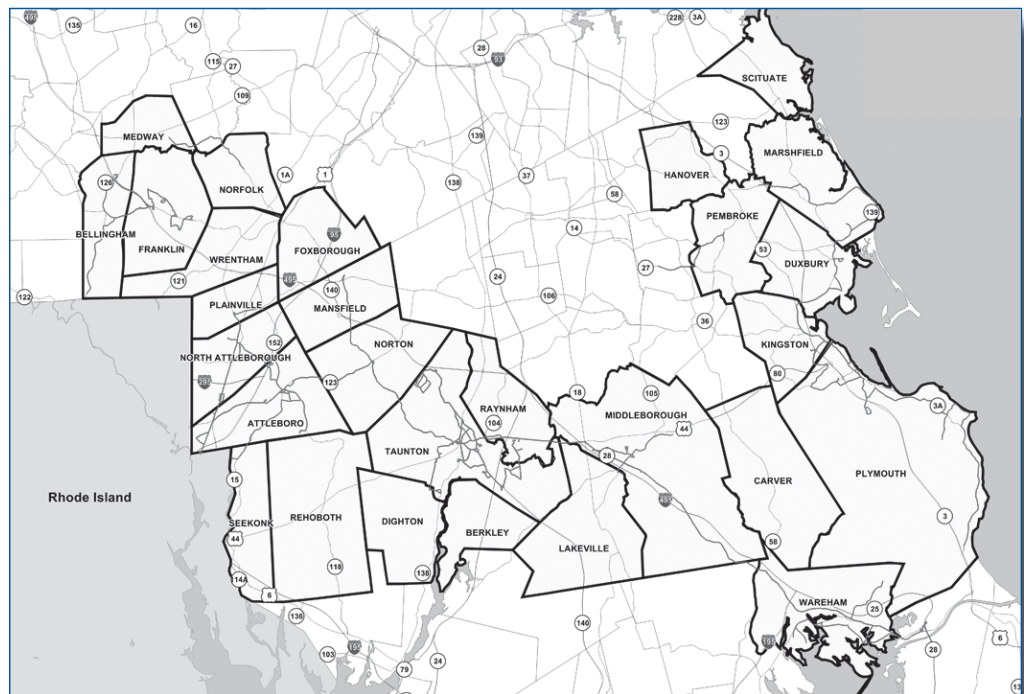
**Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority**

10 Oak Street, Taunton, MA 02780  
508-823-8828  
[www.gatra.org](http://www.gatra.org)

Created in 1974 by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 161B, the **Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority** is one of the largest and more diverse regional transit authorities with 28 participating member communities taking advantage of some or all of the following services: regular fixed route buses, ADA demand response, senior Dial-A-Ride and MBTA commuter shuttles. GATRA also provides broker-age transportation services for Human Services Transportation (HST). Funding for GATRA comes from local, state and federal sources.

Attleboro  
Bellingham  
Berkley  
Carver  
Dighton  
Duxbury  
Foxborough  
Franklin  
Hanover  
Kingston  
Lakeville  
Mansfield  
Marshfield  
Medway  
Middleborough  
Norfolk  
North Attleboro  
Norton  
Pembroke  
Plainville  
Plymouth  
Raynham  
Rehoboth  
Scituate  
Seekonk  
Taunton  
Wareham  
Wrentham

## The GATRA Service Area and Participating Communities





## Message from the Administrator



***Fiscal Year 2013*** was a very busy year as it relates to the Regional Transit Authorities program and the Commonwealth's various initiatives. Between finishing the Beyond Boston study, the Governor's 530 Commission, and the potential consolidation of human service transportation into one broker, there were many issues which kept the Regional Transit Authorities busy at the State House.

Needless to say, one of the most important initiatives was the Transportation Refinancing Bill which was put forth by the governor and debated and finally voted on in July of 2013. The new transportation finance package will ensure the Regional Transit Authorities' state budget line item is prospectively financed in FY2014. Additional state operating funds will help expand transit services in the regions.

GATRA was also busy purchasing new vehicles for the mass transit fleet as well as undertaking several construction projects and beginning the design of the new Plymouth Transportation Center in preparation for the Country's 400th celebration.

*Francis J. Gay*

Administrator





# CAPITAL PROJECTS

*Construction of  
Attleboro Intermodal  
Transportation Center  
Starts in FY 2013*



## Attleboro Intermodal Transportation Center

Construction of the Attleboro Intermodal Transportation Center (AIRC) officially began in August 2012 with a ceremonial groundbreaking attended by several state and local officials including Lt. Gov. Tim Murray, U.S. Rep. James McGovern, and Attleboro Mayor Kevin Dumas.



Actual construction began in early spring with the re-alignment of Wall Street which now allows for improved access to the commuter rail station and parking.

In June 2013, steel beams were placed for the new bus station followed by the construction of four roofed bus berths with canopies.



Once completed in the fall 2013, the AIRC will become the Attleboro system hub where all in-bound and outbound buses will meet.

## Other major highlights of FY 2013 include:

- > **Plymouth Transportation Center** - GATRA, in cooperation with the Plymouth Growth and Development Corporation (PGDC), and the Town of Plymouth completes a site selection and feasibility study for developing a new transportation center in down Plymouth. The study's recommendations include the construction of an enclosed waiting area, sheltered bus berths, and approximately 300 new parking spaces. In January 2013, a RFP went out for the design and construction of the new facility. Fennick/McCredie Architects were hired to complete preliminary/conceptual design of the new facility. The preliminary design is expected to be completed by spring 2014.
- > **MAP -21** - On July 6, 2012, President Obama signs a two-year bill (MAP-21) authorizing additional funding for federal transportation programs. As a result of the bill, transit programs are projected to increase slightly to \$10.578 billion in FY 2013 and \$10.695 billion in FY 2014.
- > **Performance Measurements** - As part of the new MAP -21 guidelines, the state implements a comprehensive performance measurement system with the objective of improving the overall service of the state's public transit system. Both fixed route and Dial-a-Ride services are measured using Passengers Per Revenue Mile (PPRM), Passengers Per Revenue Hour (PPRH), Revenue Miles Between Preventable Accidents, and Miles Between Road Calls. Up-to-date performance measurements are now posted on the GATRA website at: [www.gatra.org](http://www.gatra.org).
- > **Ride Match** - GATRA's Mobility Management Department launches Ride Match in December 2012. The new web-based tool offers quick, easy access to vital information about transportation options for seniors, individuals with disabilities, and anyone needing transportation in Southeastern Massachusetts. Visit Ride Match at: [www.massridematch.org](http://www.massridematch.org).
- > **New Travel Training Program** - In early spring 2013, GATRA unveils a new Travel Training Program that teaches individuals how to safely and independently ride public transportation systems in Attleboro, Taunton and other communities where GATRA operates fixed route buses. Travel Training can consist of several one-on-one sessions or group lessons.
- > **Upgrades to Taunton Bus Station Continue** - In a continued effort to improve safety, comfort and energy efficiency for both riders and employees, GATRA completed the design and/or construction of several capital projects. Safety improvements included the construction of (2) new egress stairways, a new security camera system and the design of a fire sprinkler system at the terminal. A collaborative project with the Taunton Housing Authority resulted in the construction of a new walkway equipped with energy efficient lights and security cameras that now connects an 80 unit public housing complex and the bus terminal. As part of the ongoing modernization effort, icynene insulation was applied to the roof structure of the terminal building, a new HVAC system was designed and advertised for construction in the spring of 2014. Currently a new energy efficient heating system for the Taunton Maintenance facility is being designed.



# RIDERSHIP STATISTICS

## 2013

	Fixed Route	Demand Response	Human Services Brokerage	Total Ridership
Annual Ridership	837,733	242,055	1,202,702	2,282,490

## 2012

	Fixed Route	Demand Response	Human Services Brokerage	Total Ridership
Annual Ridership	809,140	232,320	1,123,269	2,164,729

## 2011

	Fixed Route	Demand Response	Human Services Brokerage	Total Ridership
Annual Ridership	736,757	225,181	991,311	1,953,249

<b>Fixed Route by Service Area</b>	<b>Unlinked Passenger Trips</b>
Attleboro/Taunton	514,679
Plymouth Area Link (PAL)	106,972
Marshfield/Duxbury/Kingston (SAIL)	40,645
Onset Wareham Link (OWL)	103,247
Franklin Area Bus (FAB)	9,002
Norton/Mansfield Route 140	29,195
Bellingham Commuter Shuttle	4,229
Medway Commuter Shuttle	13,107
Middleborough Downtown Shuttle	12,095
Pembroke Commuter Shuttle	4,562
<b>Total Fixed Route</b>	<b>837,733</b>

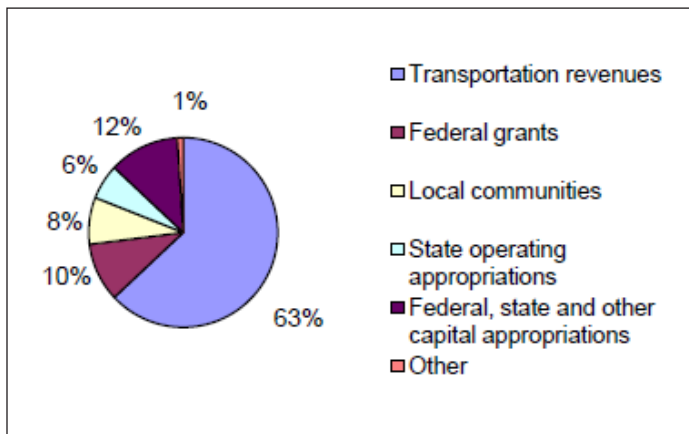
<b>Demand Response by Town</b>	<b>Unlinked Passenger Trips</b>
United Dial-A-Ride (Foxboro, Franklin, Norfolk, Wrentham)	17,975
Attleboro/Taunton	105,564
Bellingham	5,971
Carver	6,033
Duxbury	5,710
Hanover	5,048
Kingston	5,995
Lakeville	2,307
Mansfield	8,732
Mansfield Connection Service	8,501
Marshfield	4,470
Medway	2,119
Middleborough	8,914
Middleborough/Taunton	430
Pembroke	7,412
Plainville	3,339
Plymouth	25,220
Wareham	15,960
Wrentham	2,355
<b>Total Demand Response</b>	<b>242,055</b>



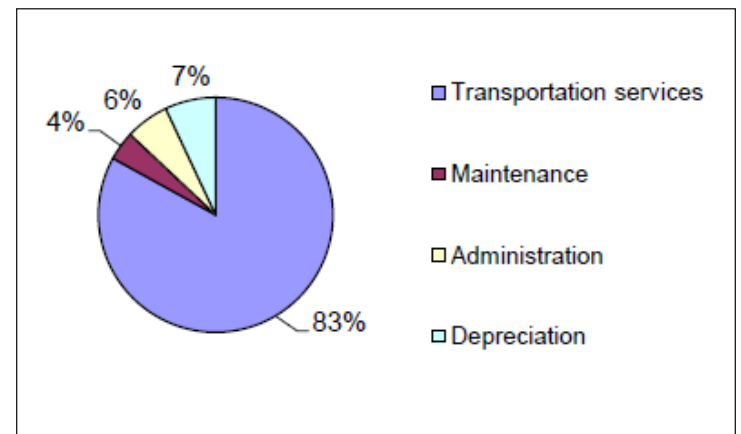
# FINANCE

The revenues and expenses by source for GATRA operations for the period ending June 30, 2013 are delineated in the following graphs:

**Revenues by Source:**



**Expenses by Source:**



## Financial Ratios

“Working Capital” is the amount by which current assets exceed current liabilities. The Current Ratio, which compares current assets to current liabilities, is an indicator of the ability to pay current obligations.

	2013	2012
<b>Working Capital</b>	\$ 10,694,000	\$ 9,607,000
<b>Current Ratio</b>	3:1	3:1

The working capital and current ratio indicate that the Authority has an excellent ability to meet current obligations.

“Liabilities to Net Position” indicates the extent of borrowing.

	2013	2012
<b>Liabilities to Net Position</b>	90%	92%

This decrease in “Liabilities to Net Postion” was caused primarily by an increase in the amount invested in capital assets included in the net position balance.



# LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS & RECOMMENDATIONS



## **Comprehensive Planning:**

*The Beyond Boston* study, which looked at public transportation issues outside of the MBTA district was completed in FY 2013. The study had specific recommendations for future planning and ways to improve organization and delivery of service throughout the RTA network. There are several elements within the study that called for greater collaboration among the RTAs in evaluating current busing and demand response service as well as providing planning for new services. As outlined in the Transportation Finance Bill passed by the state legislature in FY 2013, all RTAs are required to complete a Comprehensive Regional Transit Plan. In early 2014, GATRA will host several public meetings and listening session throughout the 28 member communities with local employers, business associations, labor organizations, and most important, our transit riders.

## **Proposed Legislation:**

There were numerous initiatives that were put forth through the state legislature in Fiscal Year 2013. From the long list of recommendations that resulted from the work of the Governor's E530 Commission and the major transportation financing reform legislation to the implementation of the Beyond Boston study for transit services outside of Boston, there was much for the Regional Transit Authorities to participate in and accomplish in FY 2013.

Thanks to the work of the RTA Legislative Caucus, the message of the Regional Transit Authorities has become clearer. All the Regional Transit Authorities agree that expanded service and additional funding is needed, but the issue of equity in how the funding is distributed both within the Boston region as well as throughout the Commonwealth also needs to be resolved. Moreover, many of the other initiatives which were put forth cannot be adequately implemented without the provision for new funding for the RTA program. The RTA Caucus has been a strong voice in the legislature; ensuring that the RTA program receives the recognition and resources to prospectively fund the RTA line item in the state budget, and to increase the line item with additional operating and capital funding, as needed, so that the RTAs can continue to meet coordination efforts.

The most serious development in FY 2013 was the release of an RFR by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) that called for the consolidation of its Human Service Transportation program into one statewide broker. This action by EOHHS was vehemently fought by the RTAs. Many believe that the consolidation is in direct conflict with the Governor's E530 recommendations, which call for regional coordination of services and more efficient use of vehicles locally. Whether it's human service transportation funded or public transit funded, coordination is most effective when it is done at the local level.

# ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

## COMMUNITY

Attleboro  
Bellingham  
Berkley  
Carver  
Dighton  
Duxbury  
Foxborough  
Franklin  
Hanover  
Kingston  
Lakeville  
Mansfield  
Marshfield  
Medway  
Middleboro  
Norfolk  
No. Attleboro  
Norton  
Pembroke  
Plainville  
Plymouth  
Raynham  
Rehoboth  
Scituate  
Seekonk  
Taunton  
Wareham  
Wrentham

## ELECTED OFFICIAL

Mayor Kevin Dumas  
Mike Soter  
George F. Miller  
Michael J. O'Donnell, Jr.  
Dean Cronin  
Theodore J. Flynn  
James J. DeVellis  
Robert Vallee  
John S. Barry  
Joseph F. Casna, Jr.  
Derek A. Maksy  
Olivier Kozlowski  
Matthew J. McDonough  
Andrew Espinosa  
Alfred P. Rullo, Jr.  
James C. Lehan  
Michael S. Thompson  
Timothy R. Giblin  
Gregory Hanley  
Andrea Soucy  
Mathew J. Muratore  
Marie A. Smith  
Joseph M. Tito  
Joseph P. Norton  
Francis Cavaco  
Mayor Thomas C. Hoyer  
Stephen M. Holmes  
Joseph F. Botaish

## DESIGNEE

Mayor Kevin Dumas  
Laura DeMattia, COA Director  
Linda Howerton, Selectman  
Carole Julius, COA Director  
Alice Souza, COA Director  
Joanne Moore, COA Director  
Vicki Lowe, COA Director  
Andrew Bissanti, Town Council Member  
Anthony Marino, Dir. of Community Services  
Dennis Randall, Selectman  
Rita Garbitt, Town Administrator  
Gale Farrugia, COA Director  
Paul Halkiotis, Town Planner  
Missy Dziczek, COA Director  
Andrea Priest, COA Director  
Jack Hathaway, Town Administrator  
Mark Fisher, Town Administrator  
Richard Leitch  
Hilary Wilson, Liason  
Leland Ross, COA Board Member  
Patrick O'Brien, Facility & Special Events Mgr.  
Elizabeth Moura, COA Director  
Norella Palmer, COA Director  
Florence Choate, COA Director  
Bernie Huck, COA Director  
Mayor Thomas C. Hoyer  
Susan Green, Town Admin. Asst.  
Janet Angelico, COA Director